



Rule Up For Final Action

Proposed Amendments to
WAC 230-40-120
Wager limits in card games.

ITEM 13 (a) on the September 10, 2004, Commission Meeting Agenda.

Statutory Authority 9.46.070

Who proposed the rule change?

Staff.

Why is this rule change needed?

Staff is requesting the proposed amendment to clarify the wagering amount allowed for each betting round. The proposed language reads that a single wager may be placed for each decision made by the player before additional cards are dealt or revealed. This is consistent with language already in WAC 230-40-010(1)(c), which explains that each player is responsible for their own decisions on each hand. Decisions include whether to fold, discard, draw additional cards, or raise the wager.

This rule is before you in order to ensure regulatory consistency regarding betting round limits between house-banked card rooms and tribal casinos. Tribal casinos already set betting round limits based on separate wagers for separate decisions.

Following is an example using the game Caribbean Stud: This game requires an ante and a call wager in each betting round. The call wager must be twice the ante wager. Under the current rule, with \$100 betting limits, the maximum wager would be \$33 for the ante, and \$66 for the call wager. The proposed change would allow the same round at \$50 for the ante and \$100 for the call because they are both separate decisions during the round.

Change made after the July meeting:

August agenda version: Housekeeping in subsection (6): "on" was changed to "for"

Statements against the proposed rule change.

None at this time.

Which licensees will be directly impacted?

Card rooms.

What are the potential impacts to the agency?

Minimal.

Staff recommendation.

Adoption.

Proposed effective date.

October 11, 2004, if the amendment is adopted at the September 10, 2004, Commission meeting to become effective 31 days from filing.